

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00910 201759Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ARA-10 EA-10
NEA-10 /109 W
-----063106 201801Z /43

O P 201717Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7904
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0910

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

DAR FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG PDEV WA
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: OPENING SESSION OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA

1. SUMMARY: AT OPENING SESSION OF UN COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA
MEETINGS IN LUSAKA, ALL SPEECHES, OTHER THAN THAT OF SWAPO
LEADER NUJOMA, ASSIDUOUSLY AVOIDED DIRECT REFERENCES TO
EFFORTS OF THE CONTACT GROUP. NUJOMA WARNED OF A SOUTH AFRICAN
MILITARY BUILD-UP IN NAMIBIA AND INCREASING INTIMIDATION.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00910 201759Z

HE EMPHASIZED SWAPO REASONABLENESS AND SAG INTRANSIGENCE IN
TALKS WITH THE WEST. END SUMMARY.

2. UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA EXTRAORDINARY PLENARY
SESSIONS OFFICIALLY OPENED AFTERNOON OF MARCH 20 IN LUSAKA'S
MULUNGUSHI HALL. COUNCIL WAS ADDRESSED BY ZAMBIAN PRIME MINISTER
MAINZA CHONA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT KONIE, AND SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM

NUJOMA. A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL WAS ALSO READ TO THE ASSEMBLED DELEGATIONS AND GUESTS.

3. CHONA'S SPEECH, WHICH DEALT AS MUCH WITH RHODESIA AS IT DID WITH NAMIBIA, CONTAINED NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE WESTERN FIVE'S ATTEMPTS TO FIND A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE TERRITORY'S PROBLEM. IN HIS REMARKS ON RHODESIA, CHONA COMMENDED "AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND THE US STATE DEPARTMENT" FOR SPEAKING MORE FIRMLY THAN THE BRITISH ABOUT THE SHORTCOMINGS OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND HE WARNED AGAINST ANY COUNTRY SUPPORTING THE "REBELS" BY RECOGNIZING THE SALISBURY PROPOSALS. ON NAMIBIA, CHONA SAID THAT SWAPO HAD BEEN REASONABLE IN ALL EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, AND THAT ZAMBIA WELCOMED THE PRESSURE BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND OTHERS ON SOUTH AFRICA TO END ITS ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF THE TERRITORY.

4. IN HER SHORT ADDRESS TO THE COUNCIL, AMBASSADOR KONIE EMPHASIZED THAT SWAPO'S MILITARY STRUGGLE HAD CREATED CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT COULD BE PURSUED. SHE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT VIGILANCE MUST BE MAINTAINED IN CASE SOUTH AFRICA TRIES AT THE LAST MINUTE TO SUBVERT EFFORTS TO BRING INDEPENDENCE TO NAMIBIA. KONIE SAID THAT THE UPCOMING SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA SHOULD FOCUS ITS ATTENTION ON THE CURRENT OPPRESSIVE CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORY.

5. SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT TENSION WAS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00910 201759Z

ESCALATING BETWEEN "PROGRESSIVE FORCES&" AND THE "DORCES OF 2MPERIALISM AND RACISM." HE STRESSED RECENT SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY

BUILD-UP AND DETAILED EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORY UNDER WHICH THEY COULD MAKE A MILITARY MOVE AGAINST SWAPO. HE CHARGED THAT THE SAG HAD EMBARKED ON A CAMPAIGN OF INTIMIDATION USING THE "TURNHALLE PUPPETS AND THUGS" SO THAT NAMIBIAN WAS FIGHTING NAMIBIAN.

6. NUJOMA SAID THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN POSITION REGARDING THE CONTACT GROUP TALKS MUST BE SEEN AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE SAG'S INCREASING INTERNAL REPRESSION. THE CG TALKS WERE STILL INCONCLUSIVE, BUT SUCCESS WAS DOUBTFUL BECAUSE OF CONTINUED SOUTH AFRICAN INTRANSIGENCE. CHARGING THAT THE SAG AND OTHERS WERE TRYING TO PLACE THE BLAME FOR PROBLEMS IN THE TALKS ON SWAPO, NUJOMA SAID THAT SWAPO HAD, IN FACT, MADE ALL THE MAJOR CONCESSIONS WHILE SOUTH AFRICA HAD MADE NONE OF REAL SIGNIFICANCE.

7. DESPITE THE CONTINUED SOUTH AFRICAN OPPRESSION, NUJOMA SAID SWAPO WAS STILL WILLING TO WORK FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. HE WAS PESSIMISTIC, HOWEVER, AND SWAPO WAS NOT

PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN "SCHEMES DESIGNED TO UNDERMINE... THE YEARS OF STRUGGLE." HE SAID THAT THE WESTERN FIVE, IF THEY USED THEIR FULL LEVERAGE, COULD COMPEL SOUTH AFRICA TO ABIDE BY THE CONDITIONS OF UNSC RESOLUTION 385. NUJOMA CLOSED BY STATING THAT OPPRESSION IN NAMIBIA MUST BE THE BASIS FOR ACTION AND THAT THE CURRENT TALKS COULD NOT CONTINUE INDEFINITELY.

8. COMMENT: NUJOMA'S SPEECH WAS NOT AS BAD AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED, CONSIDERING HIS SYMPATHETIC AUDIENCE. HE DID TELL THE COUNCIL THAT SWAPO WAS PREPARED TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS, ALBEIT NOT INDEFINITELY, AND REAFFIRMED THE ORGANIZATION'S COMMITMENT TO RESOLUTION 385. HIS REMARKS DEMONSTRATE PARTICULAR CONCERN ABOUT WHICH PARTY WILL BE BLAMED IF THE WESTERN FIVE EFFORT SHOULD FAIL. CONSPICUOUSLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LUSAKA 00910 201759Z

ABSENT FROM HIS ADDRESS WAS ANY MENTION OF WALVIS BAY. LOW

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA00910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780122-1157
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780348/aaaabobh.tel
Line Count: 137
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 894af2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3269903
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: OPENING SESSION OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, WA, UN, COUNCIL FOR NAMIBI, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/894af2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014